

NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCDCA TO REGULATE PRENEED BURIAL CONTRACTS

Columbia, S.C.....Effective July 1, 2006, the oversight for preneed funeral contracts was transferred to the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs by the General Assembly. More and more South Carolina consumers are entering into preneed contracts to purchase funeral and burial goods and services prior to death. In order to protect consumers, the law requires that the contracts be backed by a trust account with a bank or with an insurance policy issued through a licensed insurance company. All payments for funeral merchandise must be placed in a trust account in a federally insured institution until the merchandise is delivered for use as provided in the contract.

Danny Collins, Deputy of Regulatory Enforcement for SCDCA said, "The Department is trying to make the transition as smooth as possible and is looking forward to working with the industry."

South Carolina funeral directors will continue to be regulated by the Board of Funeral Services at the Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation.

Please contact the Department at (803) 734-4236 or 1-800-922-1594 toll-free in South Carolina or visit our website at www.scconsumer.gov if you have questions.

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About the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs:

Established by the Consumer Protection code in 1974, The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs represents the interests of South Carolina Consumers.

Our mission is to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, mediation, enforcement and education.

For more information, visit www.scconsumer.gov.
